

# the Almagest

August 23, 2001

Prototype

Volume 40, Number 01

## Energy Fee instituted to counteract high utility cost SGA President Strozier laments lack of student input in decision

by Matthew Morris

A \$2 per credit hour energy surcharge was added to student fees this fall to cover increasing fuel costs.

"I was not in favor of the fee, but we had no choice," Chancellor Vincent Marsala said. "The legislature didn't appropriate money."

The fee was instituted at the July 20 LSU Board of Supervisors meeting, which was held at LSUS.

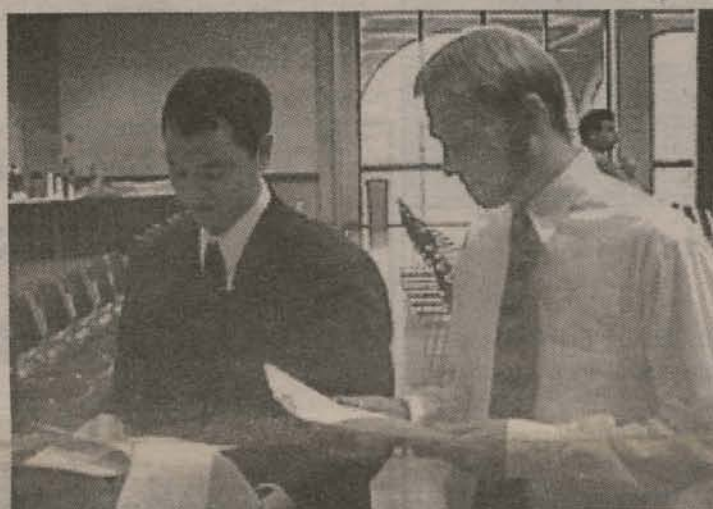
"I see the need for the

fee, but I don't like that students were left out of the decision," said SGA President Jeff Strozier.

Strozier and Vice President Brad Bowen both attended the meeting, but Strozier said he feels students really had no voice in the decision.

Vice Chancellor for business affairs, Michael Ferrell, said the fee was something the administration of LSUS did not want to have to do.

"I hate having to put it back on the students, but we didn't have a choice,"



Strozier and Bowen review important documents at the July 20 LSU Board of Supervisors meeting

he said.

According to Ferrell, energy costs went up \$210,000 last year.

LSUS has been working to conserve energy by instituting a program that includes shutting down air

conditioning in buildings when they are not in use, and encouraging faculty and staff to turn off all unnecessary lights.

By doing this, the school has cut electrical consumption by 10 to 12 percent over the last few months.

"Energy management has saved a lot of money over the years," Ferrell said.

Ferrell said that in the future, he will look at replacing lights with more efficient systems and other

*Continued on pg. 2*

## Computer Science and Mathematics merge

by Jennifer Knafla

The math and computer science departments are combining.

Though the official paperwork is still to be approved by Baton Rouge, the two departments are being administered as one and are now sharing faculty and resources.

Dr. Paul Sisson, chair of the new department, said that there were many reasons for the merger.

"There is a subset of math faculty that can teach computer science," he said. "The department has

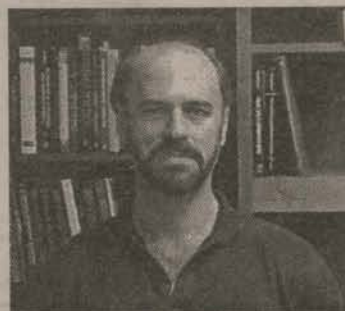
always known of this resource as something to be used in the future."

Cost savings are another reason for the new department.

"Instead of having two chairpersons, two secretaries, two copy machines, etc., there will be just one," Sisson said.

Sisson does not believe that the cut back on contacts for the students will make it harder for them to get in touch with their professors.

Sisson said that he had interviewed some computer science students and found that the most consistent



Dr. Paul Sisson

complaint was that it was hard for the students to get hold of contacts.

However, Sisson said that by acknowledging the importance of people, he feels that getting in touch with professors will be easier.

Another reason for the relocation of the computer

science department is the upcoming renovation of the old library, which in past semesters has housed the offices for the computer science department.

The computer science offices will now be combined with that of the math department on the fourth floor of Bronson Hall.

Sisson said that even though the merger coincided with a recent university task force recommendation, the idea of combining the two departments was suggested prior to the task force and the task force had no idea that the merger was happening.

Sisson said that the new department is to undergo a modernization.

"Math has already been brought a long way," he said. "But computer science needs to evolve for today's market place."

Sisson said that the department would make curriculum changes for computer science because "it is not where it should be."

The merger of the departments should be made official by the end of the coming Spring semester.



# The Almagest

("al-meh-jest". n): Arabic: "The Majestic"

any of several medieval treatises on a branch of knowledge (as the 9th century Arabic translation of Ptolemy's Greek work on astronomy)  
- Webster's Third New International Dictionary

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Call the Almagest at 797-5328 Email us at [almagest@pilot.lsus.edu](mailto:almagest@pilot.lsus.edu)

## The Almagest Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to *The Almagest* office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. *The Almagest* reserves the right to edit letters. □

The Almagest is a member of the Southeastern Journalism Conference, American College Press Association, and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

## Administration blames lack of legislative support for energy cost shortfall

*Continued from pg. 1*

means of saving energy.

"When doing something like that, you must look at how long it will take to recoup savings," Ferrell said.

Despite these efforts, energy costs have still exceeded the amount allotted by the legislature.

According to Ferrell, statewide \$61 million in costs including energy, health insurance premiums and merit raises for civil service employees is supposed to be covered by \$15

million the legislature allocated.

However, Ferrell said that the money raised by the energy fee will not be used for anything besides energy and cannot be used until costs have exceeded what was spent in the 99-00 school year.

He said the fee is expected to raise \$140,000 a year for three years.

The fee at LSUS is the lowest in the state.

Louisiana Tech students, for example, will have to pay \$7 a credit hour for

three quarters.

Ferrell said the fee will come up for review about June of next year, at which time it may be modified.

"We'll do everything we can not to increase the fee," Ferrell said. "We're looking to eliminate it."

Strozier said that the three-year limit on the duration of the fee and the periodic reviews of the fee are important.

"I was hesitant about the fee, but it has a lot of safeguards," he said. "I like safeguards."

## Do you have any concerns, complaints, condundrums?

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email us at [almagest@pilot.lsus.edu](mailto:almagest@pilot.lsus.edu)

or stop by Bronson Hall 344

## Calendar of events

**Thu Aug. 23**

Registration

**Fri Aug. 24**

**Sat Aug. 25**

**Sun Aug. 26**

**Mon Aug. 27**

**CLASSES BEGIN!**

**Tue Aug. 28**

10:30 a.m.  
Student Activities Board Meeting,  
U.C. Desoto

**Wed Aug. 29**

**Thu Aug. 30**

10:30 a.m.  
Catholic Student Union,  
U.C. Caddo/Bossier

Blackboard Basics,  
U.C. Theater

Student Success "Orientation and How to get career information,"  
U.C. Red River

**Fri Aug. 31**

12:00 p.m.  
Student Organization Council  
U.C. Webster

**The Almagest's big fall meeting**

**Tuesday, Sept. 4**  
common hour  
BH 344

**BE THERE!**



# Otaku club celebrates anime, video games

by Melissa Rumfield

You may be wondering: what is Otaku Club?

According to club founder, Cedric Rhodes, an Otaku is someone who likes Japanese animation or video games.

The Otaku Club is a new organization on campus that encourages students to share their enthusiasm for Japanese anime and video games.

"The purpose of the club is to provide college and high school students with an extracurricular activity," said Rhodes.

Members play video

games and watch anime at club meetings.

Rhodes said that the most popular game with club members is Marvel vs. Capcom. Tekken Tag is another club favorite.

The club has about ten active members and many inactive members who attend the club's video game sessions.

A few members play computer games, but most play PlayStation 2, Dreamcast, and other console games.

Club members also watch anime at meetings. Rhodes says that most of the anime that comes on channels like Cartoon Network is that which is most popular in the United

States.

Some examples of Japanese animation would be Cardcaptors, Dragon Ball Z, and Tenchi Muyo.

The club watches a diverse array of anime, including widely popular and less well known anime.

Becoming a member of the LSUS Otaku Club is very easy.

Potential members should be interested in one of the things the club does or could do.

Even better, there are no club dues.

In the future the club

plans to go to anime conventions, and anywhere else there is anime to watch or stuff to buy.



Members need to be able to pay their own way on these trips.

The club will be participating in Fall Fest.

A room will be set up for students to come in and play video games.

The club will provide food as well.

The first Otaku Club meeting is Sept. 1.

Meetings will be held on Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. on the second floor of the UC in the TV room.

For more information visit the club's website at [www.geocities.com/lusotaku](http://www.geocities.com/lusotaku). It should be completely up and running by the first club meeting according to Rhodes.

Some of the features will be a list of club members, pictures, and a message board.

## Welcome Back!



### Welcome Back Bash!

September 6th & 7th in the UC

★ Thursday, 9/6 10:00am-12:00pm

Blizzards served by Faculty and Staff

Student Organization Fair

★ Friday, 9/7 10:30am-2:00pm

Make Your Own Videos

Sub sandwiches served by Faculty and staff and much, much more!

### Hypnotist Show

September 6th  
at 7pm in UC Theater



### Sorority and Fraternity

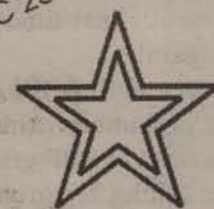
### Recruitment/Rush

September 14th-17th

Registration deadline is September 12th.



SGA Volunteer Day  
Saturday, September 15th  
Sign up in UC 232



### Greek Week September 4th - 8th

★ Greek Olympics part 1 & 2  
during Common Hour on 9/4 & 9/6 in UC Mall  
★ Slip & Slide Softball  
on 9/7 at 7pm on South Side of UC  
★ Philanthropy/Community Service Project  
on 9/8 from 8am-12pm at  
Northwest Louisiana Foodbank on Texas St.





# College of Liberal Arts considers offering Blackboard-based online courses

by  
Matthew Morris

Technology is seeing an increasing role in instruction in the College of Liberal Arts, according to Dean Merrell Knighten.

"Technology itself can't save a weak teacher," Knighten said. "But it can help a good teacher provide a better experience."

To test this, Knighten himself is working on an online-only version of the English 205 course he is teaching this fall. English 205 is a sophomore English literature survey course which covers early English literature, such as Beowulf, through eighteenth-century

neo-classicism.

The online version of the course will use the Blackboard computer system, which has been used at LSUS since last year. Most faculty at LSUS have completed training in the use of Blackboard and many use it to supplement their regular classes.

Knighten is one of several faculty members who have also completed training in teaching online courses. He said he plans to use the traditional classroom English 205 course as a comparison with the online version.

"The danger is that students in the Blackboard-only course will do better because they will study constantly," he said.

Knighten said that the

planned online course would cover everything that would normally be covered in the classroom.

Students will be able to access notes, supplemental



*Dr. Merrell Knighten explores new dimensions of education.*

materials, and discussion groups on assigned readings.

As an example of how technology can enhance the learning experience, Knight-

en uses an online reproduction of Shakespeare's Globe theater, which allows viewers to experience the theater as Shakespeare's audience would have, from a variety of angles. "Before this, high tech was a cardboard model," Knighten said.

Knighten said that an online course would be especially useful to students with difficult schedules. "I would like it to be totally asynchronous, so students can access it anytime, anywhere," he said.

He said an important part of this is the use of discussion groups that are set up for every reading, with responses

expected from every student. In addition, Knighten said that with so many universities using the internet to provide access to their resources, there is a wealth of information available.

The implementation of technology in liberal arts education was prompted by recent research on the effectiveness of technology-aided teaching. According to Knighten, the research indicates that teachers with training using technology appropriately may enhance the learning experience.

"This is another way of giving students more access," Knighten said.

## Student Activities plans "Welcome Back Bash"

by  
Alison Dye

Yes, it's that time of year again!

Every college student's nightmare...time to get back to the ol' grind (a.k.a. taking lecture notes and studying until you drop!)

But, before all that, LSUS has planned a Welcome Back Bash for its students to help them ease into the swing of things.

The Welcome Back Bash will be held inside this year because last year at the same time the heat index was 104 degrees.

Also, it will last two days this year.

On Thursday, Sept. 6 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Blizzards, Dairy Queen's most famous ice cream treat, will be served by the Faculty and Staff and

there will be a student organization fair.

There will also be a hypnotism presentation by hypnotist Paul Parsons.

He will be appearing at 7 p.m. in the UC Theater. Students can get in free with LSUS I.D., and it is \$2 for the general public.

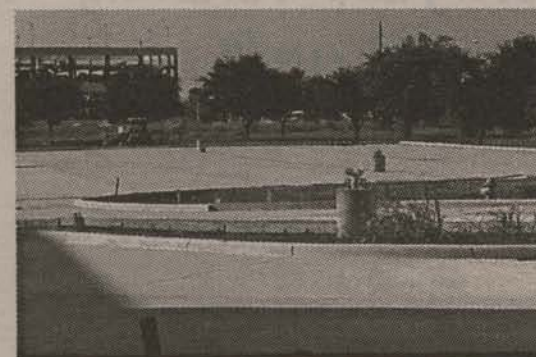
On Friday, Sept. 7 from 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. there will be "Make Your Own Videos" and sub sandwiches served by the faculty and staff.

So, as you can see, it's going to be a lot of fun so come on out, get your semester started right, and have a good time at LSUS' Welcome Back Bash!



## Work continues on new parking lot

Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Mike Ferrell expects project to be finished in mid-September





# College of education gets new face

by Marian Claville

Dr. Charles D. Mangest is the new dean of the College of Education.

He comes to LSUS by way of Western Illinois University.

There he helped to prepare education students for tomorrow's growing classrooms. He has further conditioned students into student teachers and school administrators.

"What made me come to LSUS was the marvelous people I met and the opportunities to grow," Mangest said.

His steadfast but easygoing attitude compliments his positive and energetic vision for the future. Although he has not been at LSUS long enough to point out any dramatic changes that will occur in the college of education, Mangest stresses that there are obligations that will not be ignored.

Those obligations are simply the students.

"There is an obligation to

the students," he said. "The College of Education will provide support for our students. We will also embrace technology to better prepare our students for the future."

His outlook on the future can and will be told through his actions.

In an attempt to get to know the faculty, staff, and students in the college of education Mangest will be actively involved in some planned activities on campus and off.

On Friday, Aug. 24, the dean held a retreat so the faculty members could meet and greet him before the semester began.

Mangest also plans to meet with each faculty member of the College of Education and ask one question of each one of them: "What is one thing you can change or want to change?"

The answers to that question will bring about some change in the College of Education.

# The FA Super-Highway personal guide

One of the most confusing things for new students (and some older ones too) is the financial aid process. So we here at the Almagest decided to make a chart that will explain all those nasty twist and turns of the FA highway. Be sure to cut it out, copy it down or save this issue so that you can have it for reference in the future. And who knows maybe next year you won't take that wrong left turn at Albuquerque.

**START HERE**

Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- It takes 3-4 weeks if submitted online
- It takes 4-6 weeks if sent in the mail

After it is processed by a Federal Processor, a Student Aid Report (SAR) will be sent to the student via mail.

- Bring it to the Financial Aid Office

Even if there are mistakes on the SAR, take it to the FA office. They can make the corrections over the computer. It is much easier than mailing it back in the mail.

Any other forms the student will need to fill out will be given to them at this point

- Some forms are on the LSUS FA office Website

Fill out and return all requested paperwork.

- you can take it home or fill it out at the FA office

Once all paperwork is turned in it is processed by an FA counselor on a first-come first-serve basis according to the date that the student turns in his paperwork.

- For example: A student who turns in his paper work in July would be processed faster than someone who submits it in August

The student will receive an award letter in the mail from the FA office after his aid has been processed.

- It can take up to two weeks for the money to arrive from the bank

## Before Registration

If the check arrives before registration, it will be listed on the student's credit sheet. He will have to pick up the credit sheet at early fee payment (if he registered early) or at regular registration. The student takes the credit slip to the cashiers to pay their tuition and fees.

- If the student has any money left after this, a check will be available for pick up on the first and second days of classes in a semester.

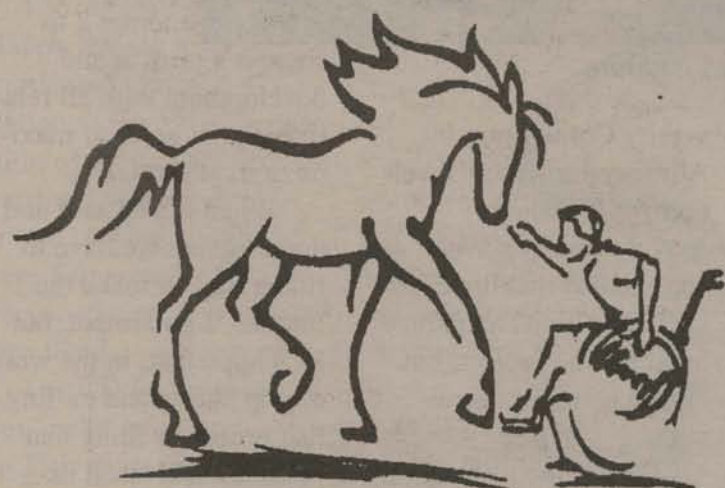
## During the Semester

If a student's aid is processed after classes have begun, when the check comes in, it is sent to Accounts Receivable. If the student owes an obligation to LSUS, that amount is deducted from the check before being mailed to the student.

- If the student does not owe money to LSUS, then Accounts Receivable will cut a full check and mail it to the student.

Students are eligible for Financial Aid fee deferments if they have not been processed before registration, or if their funds do not arrive in time for registration. Students must also be cleared in Admissions first. Financial Aid cannot be processed until students are accepted into the University and their transcripts have been evaluated. Money isn't due until FA money comes in.

A fee deferment is also available for continuing students through Accounts Receivable. Half of the money is due up front for this deferment.



**G R E E T**

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**GREAT (Greenwood Equine Assisted Therapies, Inc.) is looking for volunteers to help with therapeutic horseback riding lessons for children and adults with disabilities. FALL SESSION dates are September 10 through October 19 and October 29 through December 14, 2001. We have classes Monday through Thursday. We are located on Hwy 79 South in Greenwood, Louisiana. Please call Caroline FitzGerald at (318) 938-9166 for more information. THANK YOU.**



# The Internet 2 provides commercial-free possibilities for education . . . for now

by Aaron  
Sartori

Amidst the rapid change of the early nineties grew the billowing buzz of the Internet.

Finally the tedious tasks of researching and sharing information were becoming as easy as the click of a button.

With the technology to access the Internet becoming more accessible to the general public, the endless possible consequences of linking the world's population only grew as more of the world stood in awe of a technology that would bring the world and its services into our living rooms.

But, of course, with all this promise of the world becoming one, we still didn't escape the all too important fuel that makes the world go around: money.

Legions of geeks flocked to the general masses with ideas of practical and impractical services that could make their lives easier.

Everyone from Hollywood to special interest groups such as the NRA followed suit to pursue their causes in this brave

new world, but with all this new-found greed there was hardly room for the original settlers of the Internet and by 1995 the National Science Foundation that once comprised the Internet cut off direct access to its original backbone, Merit, and a \$50 annual fee was imposed on all domains, excluding .edu and .gov domains, which were still funded by the National Science Foundation.

The over-commercialization of the internet that signified the start of the end has now lead to, what else?

Part 2, or more specifically, the Internet 2.

"The Internet 2 is all about orders of magnitude, more speed, new standards that make it possible to prioritize the packets, and new applications that are not possible on the internet, like doing remote MRIs [magnetic resonance imaging], collaborative design, full-screen distributed learning," said John Patrick, vice president of Internet technology at IBM in 1999.

The Internet 2 now connects over 180 universities in the United States to a backbone network, called

Abilene, which supports high-quality audio and video, and does not include any extraneous sites of the so-called commodity Internet.

As of March even Mexico had, in collaboration with California universities, a plan to connect the

ment, the possibility of sharing research and teaching methods between the two countries still exists.

Also in March, plans to expand the Internet 2's high speed networking to K-12 schools was made with a score of groups participating, such as the Uni-

share and discuss relevant issues and research is back in place and growing, but not without the all-ruling hand of computer software: Microsoft.

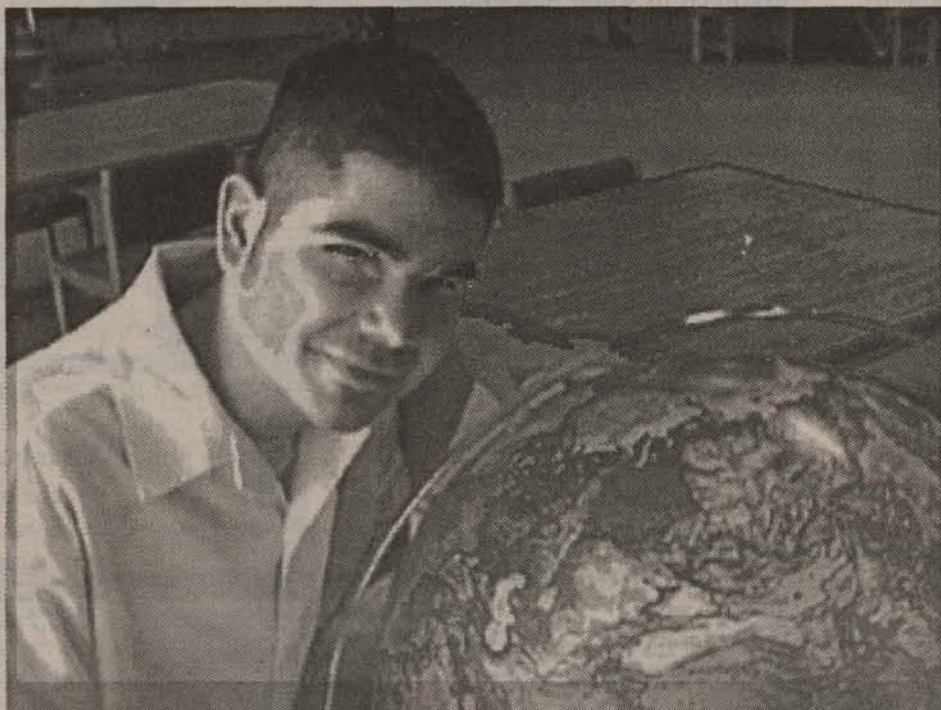
Bill Gates announced at the Connected Learning Community Technology Summit in Seattle that his

company, Microsoft, will support the training of 1.5 million teachers this year and he introduced the Microsoft Encarta Class Server, a web-based curriculum management platform.

Surrounding Gates' software unveiling, he expressed concerns for those involved in the Internet 2 to

share it's growth and development with all relative parties so as to maximize its potential.

When it's all said and done I guess we have to find a way to make the Internet 2 go around, but let's hope that, in the words of pop singer and ex-English professor Sting that "History will teach us nothing."



*The world is yours*

Mexican arm of the project, Corporación Universitaria para el Desarrollo de Internet (CUDI) with the a network of California's higher education institutions, called CalRen-2.

Although speculation is still being made into Mexico's actual capability in handling such a high-tech system on dated equip-

ment, the possibility of sharing research and teaching methods between the two countries still exists. Also in March, plans to expand the Internet 2's high speed networking to K-12 schools was made with a score of groups participating, such as the University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development for which spokesman Greg Wood commented that there has been no official announcement for the project, but "just a series of discussions."

Finally the restoration of a true higher learning collaboration of people to



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# Perry Farrell ponders a "Song Yet to Be Sung"

by Kern Courtney



Perry Farrell has gone global.

On July 31, the formidable frontman for Jane's Addiction and Porno for Pyros released his first solo album in 5 years and his first album ever with Virgin Records.

"Song Yet To Be Sung" invites the listener to explore an expansive soundscape stretched across electronica-based beats and rooted in musical traditions from all over the world.

Throughout the album resounds the theme of the celebration of life, love, friendship, and the individual.

The album's first track "Happy Birthday Jubilee" introduces the concept in relation to the Hebrew tradition of the Jubilee, a year-long festivity prescribed by God to be held every fifty years when everyone rested and slaves were freed.

The CD liner notes even make references to the 25th chapter of the book of Leviticus, the biblical passage where the jubilee is instituted.

The song's lyrics are full of biblical imagery and sometimes read like one of King David's psalms: "The red heifer is here/ And cousins of twelve tribes/ Count up all our faces/ Divide up the cake in pieces."

This first track also defines the album's overall sound, its rhythm made up of danceable techno loops,

its melody clearly influenced by Middle Eastern music, and its innovative, ambient accompaniments at once haunting and soothing.

Perry himself explains the concept behind "Song Yet To Be Sung" on his website: "Some teachers that I have tell me that there are a few holy songs that have been written on this earth. I can name a few. One would be the Song of Moses. Another would be the Song of Songs that was written by King Solomon...They say there is one song that has not been sung yet.... And they say about this particular song, the Song that is yet to be sung, that everything will be resonating, the trees, the mountains, the grass, animals will have a resonance to them."

Dub reggae beats (courtesy of Mad Professor) drive the title track with lyrics that could easily be mistaken for those of Bob Marley. The song interestingly mentions "the heights of Zion," traditionally considered a holy place by both Jews and Rastafarians.

Such juxtapositions of traditions, lyrically and musically, occur often in the CD and merit its global feel.

Endearing love songs such as "Shekina," "Our Song," "Say Something,"

and "Seeds" celebrate love and marriage with lyrics reminiscent of the Bible's Song of Solomon.

"Did You Forget" offers an exhortation to celebrate the self, a reminder much like the Israelites in the Bible received from God when they began to act out of character. "To Me" celebrates friendship, with one friend inviting another to share "a taste of honey" and dine on "old wine" and "fresh bread."

The album was largely produced by Perry Farrell and Krishna Sharma, famous for his work with Crystal Method, Filter, and Sugar Ray.

Additional production came from Dub pioneer Mad

Professor and Marius DeVries, who has done work with Bjork, as well as Brendan Hawkins, Chad Bamford, and Greg Collins.

Alan Moulder, whose clientele includes nine inch nails and the smashing pumpkins, mixed many of the songs. With big names like these in the studio, the album's production value can safely be assumed to be through the roof. Working with Jane's Addiction cohorts Dave Navarro and Stephen Perkins and Porno for Pyros' bassist Martyn LeNoble seems to insure that alternative rock still

rings through on many of the songs, and

delightfully so.

Farrell has greatly distanced himself from his rebellious, brazen persona of the past. The positive tone of "Song Yet To Be Sung" speaks well of Farrell's ability to forge new ground.

He has managed to reinvent himself artistically, presumably through embracing his heritage and gaining a deeper self-knowledge.

He has also achieved a maturity in his song writing, evidenced by songs that are striking yet comforting, like seeing an old friend.





# Washington Semester

## LSU in Shreveport International Lincoln Center for American Studies

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Interim between Spring Semester and Term I Summer

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POLI 399	Field Research in Government Law
POLI 495	Independent Study
POLI 695	Independent Study

For information contact Dr. Pederson @ [wpederso@pilot.lsus.edu](mailto:wpederso@pilot.lsus.edu) or (318) 797-5138



**LSUS campus police blotter****Summer roundup****May 5**

**8:22 a.m.** A woman reported that she had received a death threat by e-mail. She said she had no idea who sent the threat. At first she did not take it seriously, but when asked, none of her friends had sent the message.

**June 14**

**5:00 p.m.** Campus police were called because a woman had been receiving threatening phone calls. Campus police arrived and the woman stated that she and her sister had been threatened by a female on the phone. The woman on the phone reportedly said that she was coming to their residence to 'kick her ass.' The complainant at first stated that she did not know who was making the calls, but upon further questioning she revealed that she knew who the caller was. She also said that the caller's ex-husband had been calling her sister. Campus police advised the complainant to call if the suspect showed up.

**June 19**

**11:00 p.m.** A woman notified campus police that she had discovered CD's and cash missing from her bedroom. The door to her bedroom was unlocked but the front door was locked and showed no sign of forced entry. The campus police examined the door further but found nothing. The complainant told police that her roommates were in class at the time and but that they also had not seen anyone in her room. Loss was estimated at \$460.

**June 28**

**5:00 p.m.** Two juveniles in a LSUS summer program had an altercation in the men's locker room of the H&PE building. Witnesses stated that one of the juveniles hit the other in the head and face several times. There were no visible signs of injury at the time of the incident. The suspect was dismissed from the summer program. The father of the complainant stated that he would like for some sort of disciplinary action to be taken against the suspect.

**July 20**

**4:30 p.m.** A woman contacted campus police and stated that her 13-year-old daughter was reported to the city police as a possible runaway. The woman thought that her daughter might have been at the UC apartments. The apartments were notified with a description of the missing person. The officers checked the grounds but there was no one there that fit the description.

**August 9**

**9:30 a.m.** A VCR was stolen from Room 203. It was last seen on July 12. There were no signs of forced entry.

**August 16**

**3:15 p.m.** Campus police were beckoned to the UC apts. A woman reported that someone had entered her apartment between 3 a.m. and 1 p.m. while she was at work and took CDs, two movies, some cleaning supplies, and food from her icebox. There were no signs of forced entry. The apartment management has changed the locks to protect the innocent.



# From the editor

It is a new school year so we decided it might be a good idea to make a new Almagest.

While it seems like it would have been easier to just hand out old ones, they have a tendency to turn yellow in the sun for some reason and so we decided that we'd print a brand new issue and have it ready for the studentry when school starts again for the fall.

After all, you paid for it. Yes, every student at LSUS has contributed to the cost of printing the Almagest.

The budget for the Almagest comes out of one of those seemingly sneaky fees that students have to pay to be students.

Of course, we are talking about the student activities

fee. The Almagest budget of \$22,000 a year comes from the student activities fee that you probably paid last week.

So, as far as we are concerned, every student at LSUS should read the Almagest.

Of course, that's just our opinion.

We hope that by reading this you are indicating your agreement.

Well, because we are starting a new relationship and we believe in honesty it is important to us that our readers know that what they think matters.

After all, this is your newspaper.

So, if you have any complaints, concerns, compliments, or comments you are

encouraged to call, write, or telegram the Almagest office.

Or feel free to stop by the office, in Bronson Hall 344. We live here basically.

It is a new year, and we're making changes.

We have a new faculty adviser: Mrs. Suzanne Bright, who just got back from Africa where she may have been big game hunting.

We have two new editors: Raechal Leone, who was unable to attend the birth of this first Almagest because she was interning in Washington D.C. While that may sound dangerous, we assure you that Raechal is safe.

Our new business manager is Chris Alexander, who just returned from worlds unknown and without whom none of this would be possi-

ble.

We have a new layout, both to the Almagest office and to the paper itself.

The editor-in-chief, or the person who is writing right now, is Matt Morris.

Morris has been working as an editor on the paper for two years, and hopes to use the experience and know-how he gained from the infamous Rogers brothers to take the Almagest to new heights.

But he can't do it alone and would like to thank all who took time out of their busy schedules this summer to help out.

He would also like to give a special thanks to Jeremy Johnson, who is returning for another year of Eleven-teen.

Unfortunately, this year our budget was cut and we had to get rid of The Gong-farmer and Captain Ribman.

However, this may be a blessing because it gives us more room to highlight local talent. If anyone is interested in drawing a cartoon, bring samples of your work to the Almagest office and we'll talk.

If someone doesn't draw us more cartoons, we'll probably use more monkeys.

And it is never too late to become a reporter; we're always glad to accept new submissions.

Our big fall staff meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 4 during common hour in BH 344. Everyone is invited to come and share the love.

In the meantime, we look forward to another year and send our best wishes to you and yours.

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## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES... XXXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

by J  
Willoughby



Welcome incoming freshman and new students!

I'm sure you already know that LSUS offers a variety of classes and degree programs and is a highly respected academic institution.

Well, that is all true.

However, LSUS also has a veritable cornucopia of extracurricular activities.

If you are interested in student government and/or campus decision making, look into the Student Activities Board (SAB), the Student Organization Council (SOC), or the Student Govern-

ment Association (SGA).

If you are a dedicated scholar, the campus also possesses an assortment of Honor Societies.

For those of you with an interest in writing, LSUS also has two on-campus periodicals: the Almagest, of course, and Spectra, a literary magazine.

If you're looking to develop a great group of lifelong friends and help both your school and community, LSUS has a diverse Greek Life.

Ahhh, so many choices. Isn't freedom great?

What's that?

You don't know about embarking on one of these social adventures on your own?

And you don't have any friends dumb enough - I mean dedicated enough - to join with

you?!

Don't fret my college newbies, LSUS also provides an excellent way to

work provides an eclectic blend of assumably college aged people with many different interests.

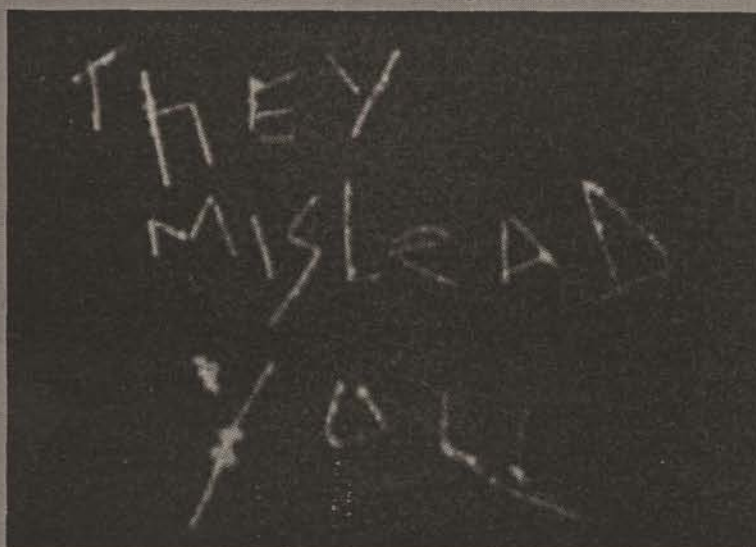
broaden your horizons while at this great university.

Work hard, have fun, and grow during this, the fall semester 2001 at Louisiana State University!

NOTE: For information on LSUS dating network, check out just about any stall in the restrooms of Bronson Hall.\*

NOTE: For information on all real campus organizations go by the Student Activities office on the 2nd floor of the University Center or call them at 797-5393.

\*Men's restrooms guaranteed. Women's restrooms may vary.



One of many example of the fine reading material available in Bronson Hall restrooms

Photo by Chris Alexander

meet a new friend or maybe even love-interest with our very own dating network!

That's right, whether you are looking for a date or just looking to hang out, the LSUS dating net-

Be it "B.J.s," movies, smoking pot or basket weaving, you're sure to find someone with the same interests as you! Now you have no reason not to join an extracurricular organization and



# Dr. William Pederson, international man of mystery

by Christopher Alexander

The average American human gets about seven to eight hours of sleep a day.

This sleep helps us all replenish the energy we waste throughout the days of our seemingly pointless lives.

While average Americans are lying down getting their rest, an extraordinary few stay up to get ahead.

They fill their lives with sleep deprivation and achievable dreams.

One of these extraordinary humans is Dr. William Pederson.

While we tuck our feet in comfort-filled blankets and rest our heads on soft homey pillows, Pederson sits at his cluttered desk on a wooden chair.

What does he do with himself all those long hours?

Why would he put his body through this kind of torture?

Why does he keep his door closed all the time?

These questions have to be answered.

Pederson works on about four hours of sleep a night, sometimes less. "This explains why I am bitchy at times," said Pederson.

Although he thinks he is bitchy, Donna Byrd, Pederson's student, long time co-worker and friend, doesn't share the same opinion.

She describes Pederson as "a brilliant man, who is great to work with and one of the best teachers I've ever had. Even though he is a workaholic he gets everything done that he

needs to get done and he manages his time very efficiently."

Pederson is the founding director of the American Studies program here at LSUS, which was established in 1983 just two years after his arrival.

He is also the director of the International Lincoln Center.

"His reputation is so widely known as a Lincoln scholar," Byrd said, "that he was once contacted by ABC newsman Sam Donaldson to verify information on Lincoln."

He also teaches throughout the year here and abroad, does book reviews, coordinates the LSUS Washington semester and organizes annual Lincoln lectures and symposiums.

And if you think that is a lot, you should check out what he did this summer.

Pederson is so busy it is no surprise that he gets hardly any sleep.

He taught in Washington, D.C., not once, but twice.

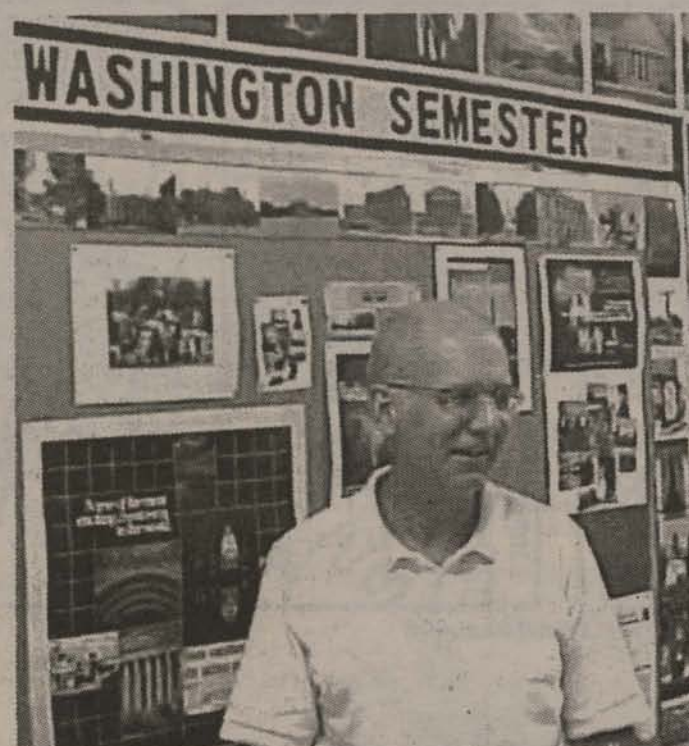
He taught for the

**"A brilliant man, who is great to work with and one of the best teachers I've ever had."**

**Donna Byrd**

Washington Semester in May and returned to D.C. and taught at Georgetown University in July. "I share insights about the south with them," explained Pederson.

Pederson also graced the University of Illinois campus this summer, where he has been



Dr. William Pederson, insomniac, Lincoln-type

appointed as an associate of the Summer Research Laboratory on Russia and Eastern Europe.

He said one of the perks of this trip is that they have the third largest library in the U.S.

Pederson arrived in town long enough to conduct this interview and then he was off to Oregon (to visit his home land) and then Mexico to learn about the "Latino Way" which he says will help

many education standards and schools must offer special programs that students can't get on the web."

The Washington semester is a good example.

It is not only a good way to learn more about our political system it is also a good way to get six college credits.

It is the least expensive Washington semester in the nation and is a great way to spend the time between the spring and summer semester.

Students this summer were able to participate in embassy interviews and foreign correspondences.

Pederson said that many students who go "participate more in student government when they return."

Another good example of special programs is "The Annual Fall Frank and Virginia Williams Lincoln Lecture," which will be held this year on Oct. 19 in the University Center.

In the past the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities has sponsored these lectures.

Pederson calls LEH, "Great people that bring culture to Louisiana. They are a leader in Humanity councils across the nation, because they do so much for this state."

The speaker this year will be historian/ author/ television commentator Michael R. Beschloss.

This program as always is free and open to the public. It is a good way to learn more about Lincoln's life.

Pederson considers Lincoln our greatest American president. "He shows us what one can do with their life if given the chance," he said. "He is a model for democratic leadership in the world."

Pederson is truly a remarkable, busy man and much like Lincoln is a model for us all.

He shows us what we could do with a little less sleep, a little more determination, great time management and a whole lot of interest in the programs and offerings here at LSUS.

And to make sure all questions are answered — Why does he keep his door closed all the time? Pederson gives two reasons, "Because the hallways are loud and I'm bitchy."

To get in touch or to check out more American Studies Programs visit [www.lsus.edu/la/histss/lincoln/index.html](http://www.lsus.edu/la/histss/lincoln/index.html) or email Pederson at [wpederson@pilot.lsus.edu](mailto:wpederson@pilot.lsus.edu)

him and the programs he works on "broaden their dimensions."

Pederson offered some advice for students.

They "should take advantage of the International Programs at LSUS, which are abundant for such a small school. The Internet has equalized



# eleventeen

BY JEREMY JOHNSON



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WWW.THIRDFLOORCOMICS.CJB.NET

First Chickens, now this !!!



There are only three things that I hate more than these smelly humans:

~using the one ply toilet paper in the LSUS bathrooms; what a pain in the ass.

~too many freshmen, not enough fresh bananas

~trying to do algebra without the capability of abstract thought